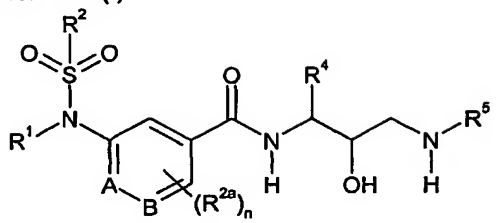
Claims

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

R^1 represents aryl or heteroaryl;

R^2 represents C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{3-8} cycloalkyl;

R^{2a} represents hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy;

n represents 0, 1 or 2;

A represents –C(H)=, -C(R^{2b})= or –N=;

R^{2b} represents C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, halogen, C_{1-3} alkoxy, amino, cyano or hydroxy;

B represents –C(R^3)= or –N=;

R^3 represents hydrogen, halogen, optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-aryl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-heteroaryl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-heterocyclyl, -C_{2-6} alkenyl-aryl, -C_{2-6} alkenyl-heteroaryl, -C_{2-6} alkenyl-heterocyclyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, cyano, azido, nitro, sulphoxide, –NR^7R^8, -NR^9COR^{10}, -$NR^{11}SO_2R^{12}$, -$NR^{11}CO_2R^{12}$, -OR^{13}, -SO_2R^{14}, -SR^{15}, -C≡CR^{16}, -C_{0-6} alkyl-$(CF_2)_qCF_3$, -$CONR^{17}R^{18}$, $COOR^{19}$, -C_{1-6} alkyl-$NR^{20}R^{21}$ or -C_{1-6} alkyl-N_3, or R^3 together with R^{2b} on adjacent carbon atoms may form a fused 5-7 membered saturated or partially saturated carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring optionally substituted by a C_{1-6} alkyl group;

R^4 represents optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-aryl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-heteroaryl or -C_{1-6} alkyl-heterocyclyl;

R^5 represents hydrogen, optionally substituted C_{1-10} alkyl, -C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, -C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, -C_{3-8} cycloalkyl-aryl, -heterocyclyl-aryl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-aryl-heteroaryl, -C(R^aR^b)-CONH-C_{1-6} alkyl, -C(R^cR^d)-CONH-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, -C_{2-6} alkyl-S-C_{1-6} alkyl, -C_{2-6} alkyl-NR^eR^f, -C(R^gR^h)-C_{1-6} alkyl, -C(R^iR^j)-aryl, -C(R^kR^l)-C_{1-6} alkyl-aryl, -C(R^mR^n)-C_{1-6} alkyl-heteroaryl, -C(R^oR^p)-C_{1-6} alkyl-heterocyclyl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-O-C_{1-6} alkyl-aryl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-O-C_{1-6} alkyl-heteroaryl or -C_{1-6} alkyl-O-C_{1-6} alkyl-heterocyclyl;

R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{13}, R^{14}, R^{15}, R^{16}, R^{17}, R^{18}, R^{19}, R^{20} and R^{21} independently represent hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, -CO-C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-aryl, -C_{1-6} alkyl-heteroaryl or -C_{1-6} alkyl-heterocyclyl;

R^a, R^c, R^e, R^f, R^g, R^h, R^i, R^j, R^k, R^l, R^m, R^n, R^o and R^p independently represent hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{3-8} cycloalkyl;

R^b and R^d independently represent hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl or -C_{1-6} alkyl-SO_2-C_{1-6} alkyl or R^a and R^b, R^c and R^d, R^g and R^h, R^i and R^j, R^k and R^l and R^m and R^n together with the carbon atom to which they are attached may form a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group;
R^{12} represents C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{3-8} cycloalkyl;
q represents 0 to 3;
optional substituents for alkyl groups of R^3, R^4 and R^5 include one or more (eg. 1, 2 or 3) halogen, C_{1-6} alkoxy, amino, cyano or hydroxy groups;
and wherein said aryl, heteroaryl or heterocyclyl groups may be optionally substituted by one or more (eg. 1, 2 or 3) C_{1-6} alkyl, halogen, -CF_3, -OCF_3, =O, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, amino, cyano, nitro, -$NR^{22}COR^{23}$, –$CONR^{22}R^{23}$ -C_{1-6} alkyl-NR^{22} R^{23} (wherein R^{22} and R^{23} independently represent hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl), -C_{1-6} alkyl-O-C_{1-6} alkyl or -C_{1-6} alkanoyl groups;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 which is a compound of formula E1-E90 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof in admixture with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable diluents or carriers.

4. A compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof for use as a pharmaceutical.

5. Use of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof in the treatment of diseases characterised by elevated β-amyloid levels or β-amyloid deposits.

6. Use of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of diseases characterised by elevated β-amyloid levels or β-amyloid deposits.

7. A method of treatment or prophylaxis of diseases characterised by elevated β-amyloid levels or β-amyloid deposits which comprises administering to a patient an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof for use in

the treatment of diseases characterised by elevated β-amyloid levels or β-amyloid deposits.